

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor; and

at least one memory comprising software, the software when executed performing a functionality for a print mechanism,

the memory further comprising instructions executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

control a state of operation of the functionality where a first state is associated with an inability to execute the software so that the print mechanism does not include the functionality;

receive a list of selectable functionalities from a server, the list including a second state of operation of the functionality;

present the list of selectable functionalities to a user;

receive user selection information from the user, the user selection information being indicative of a selection of [[a]] the second state of operation of the functionality, the second state associated with an ability to execute the software so that the print mechanism includes the functionality;

in response to receiving the user selection information, transmit first information indicative of the user selection to [[a]] the server;

receive second information from the server in response to the first information, where the second information enables execution of the software;

change the state of operation of the functionality from the first state to the second state using the second information from the server; and

operate the print mechanism in accordance with the second state of operation of the functionality such that the print mechanism includes the functionality.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first state comprises a disabled state of the functionality, and wherein the second state comprises an enabled state of the functionality.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the second information comprises an encryption key.

5. – 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the instructions are executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

provide the first information associated with the user selection information to the server using an external interface; and

~~receive the second information associated with the functionality of the print mechanism in response to providing the first information to the server.~~

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7 wherein the instructions are executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

provide the first information associated with the user selection information to the server by providing the first information to a computer system coupled to the external interface.

9. – 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a functionality for a print engine based on the execution of software comprising:

controlling a state of operation of the functionality where a first state is associated with an inability to execute the software so that the print engine does not include the functionality;

receiving a list of selectable functionalities from a server, the list including a second state of operation of the functionality;

presenting the list of selectable functionalities to a user;

receiving user selection information from the user, the user selection information being indicative of [[a]] the second state of operation of the functionality, the second state associated with an ability to execute the software so that the print engine includes the functionality;

in response to receiving the user selection information, transmitting first information indicative of the user selection to [[a]] the server;

receiving second information from the server in response to the first information, where the second information enables execution of the software; and

changing the state of operation of the functionality from the first state to the second state using the second information from the server,

wherein the print engine operates in accordance with the second state of operation of the functionality such that the print engine includes the functionality.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17[[18]] further comprising:
providing an interface for the user to select the functionality from the list.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising:
providing an interface for the user to enter the payment information.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising:
providing the payment information to the server.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising:
receiving second information associated with the functionality from the server in
response to providing the user selection information and the payment information to the server.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising receiving payment
information associated with the user selection information from the user.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the functionality comprises a
modified level of a print speed of the print engine.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the functionality comprises a modified level of a print resolution of the print engine.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the functionality comprises an upgraded level of software or hardware.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a functionality for a functional unit based on the execution of software comprising:

controlling a state of operation of the functionality where a first state is associated with an inability to execute the software so that the functional unit does not include the functionality;

receiving a list of selectable functionalities from a server, the list including a second state of operation of the functionality;

presenting the list of selectable functionalities to a user;

receiving user selection information from the user, the user selection information being indicative of [[a]] the second state of operation of the functionality, the second state associated with an ability to execute the software so that the functional unit includes the functionality;

in response to receiving the user selection information, transmitting first information indicative of the user selection to the server;

receiving from the server, second information in response to the first information, where the second information enables execution of the software; and

changing the state of operation of the functionality from the first state to the second state using the second information from the server,

wherein the functional unit operates in accordance with the second state of operation of the functionality such that the functional unit includes the functionality.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the functionality for the functional unit comprises a facsimile capability.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the functionality for the functional unit comprises a scanner capability.

30. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor; and
at least one memory comprising software, the software, when executed, performing a functionality for a functional unit,

the memory further comprising instructions executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

control a state of operation of the functionality where a first state is associated with an inability to execute the software so that the functional unit does not include the functionality;

receive a list of selectable functionalities from a server, the list including a second state of operation of the functionality;

present the list of selectable functionalities to a user;

receive user selection information, from a user, indicative of [[a]] the second state of operation of the functionality, the second state associated with an ability to execute the software so that the functional unit includes the functionality;

in response to receiving the user selection information, transmit first information indicative of the user selection to [[a]] the server;

receive second information from the server in response to the first information, where the second information enables execution of the software;

change the state of operation of the functionality from the first state to the second state using the second information from the server; and

operate the functional unit in accordance with the second state of operation of the functionality such that the functional unit includes the functionality.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, wherein the functionality comprises a facsimile function.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, wherein the functionality comprises a scanner function.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the functionality for the print mechanism comprises a modified level of a print speed.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the functionality for the print mechanism comprises a modified level of a print resolution.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the functionality for the print mechanism comprises an upgraded level of software or an upgraded level of hardware.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the functionality comprises at least one of performance capabilities, renewable capabilities, and upgrade capabilities.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the system comprises a printer with multiple hardware modules.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the functionality comprises enabling at least one of the hardware modules.

39. – 42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Presented) A printer with multiple hardware modules that includes the method of claim 17.

44. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 43 wherein the functionality comprises enabling at least one of the hardware modules.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the print engine operates within a printer with multiple hardware modules.

46. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 45 wherein the functionality comprises enabling at least one of the hardware modules.

47. (Currently Claimed) A system comprising:

a processor; and
at least one memory comprising software, the software, when executed, enabling a modified capability level of a functionality for a print mechanism,
the memory further comprising instructions executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

control a state of operation of the functionality where a first state is associated with a first capability level of the functionality such that the print mechanism is operated in accordance with the first capability level, the first state being further associated with an inability to execute the software so that the print mechanism does not include the modified capability level of the functionality;

receive a list of selectable functionalities from a server, the list including a second state of operation of the functionality;

present the list of selectable functionalities to a user;

receive user selection information from the user, the user selection information indicative of [[a]] the second state of operation of the functionality, the second state associated with an ability to execute the software so that the print mechanism includes the modified capability level of the functionality;

in response to receiving the user selection information, transmit first information indicative of the user selection to [[a]] the server;

receive second information from the server in response to the first information, where the second information enables execution of the software;

change the state of operation of the functionality from the first state to the second state using the second information from the server; and

operate the print mechanism in accordance with the second state of operation of the functionality such that the print mechanism includes the modified capability level of the functionality.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47 wherein the first state comprises a first level of performance, and wherein the second state comprises a second level of performance.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47 wherein the second information comprises an encryption key.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47 wherein the instructions are executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

provide the first information associated with the user selection information to the server using an external interface; and

receive the second information associated with the functionality of the print mechanism in response to providing the first information to the server.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50 wherein the instructions are executable by the processor to cause the processor to:

provide the first information associated with the user selection information to the server by providing the first information to a computer system coupled to the external interface.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein the functionality for the print mechanism comprises a print speed.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein the functionality for the print mechanism comprises a print resolution.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein the functionality for the print mechanism comprises software or hardware.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein the functionality comprises at least one of performance capabilities and upgrade capabilities for the print mechanism.

56. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a modified capability level of a functionality for a print engine based on the execution of software comprising:

controlling a state of operation of the functionality where a first state of operation of the functionality is associated with an inability to execute the software so that the print engine does not include the modified capability level of the functionality;

receiving a list of selectable functionalities from a server, the list including a second state of operation of the functionality;

presenting the list of selectable functionalities to a user;

receiving user selection information from the user, the user selection information indicative of [[a]] the second state of operation of the functionality, the second state associated with the ability to execute the software so that the print engine includes the modified capability level of the functionality;

in response to receiving the user selection information, transmitting first information indicative of the user selection to [[a]] the server;

receiving second information from the server in response to the first information, where the second information enables execution of the software; and

changing the state of operation of the functionality from the first state to the second state using the second information from the server,

wherein the print engine operates in accordance with the second state of operation of the functionality such that the print engine includes the modified capability level functionality.

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 57 further comprising:

providing an interface for the user to select the second state of operation of the functionality from the list.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 56, further comprising:

receiving payment information associated with the user selection information from the user.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
providing the payment information to the server.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
receiving second information associated with the second state of operation of the functionality from the server in response to providing the user selection information and the payment information to the server.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
providing an interface for the user to enter the payment information.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the functionality comprises a print speed of the print engine.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the functionality comprises a print resolution of the print engine.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the functionality comprises a hardware functionality.